

COUNTRY		Germany (Soviet Zone)	REPORT NO.	
TOPIC		Altenburg Airfield		
25X1X			25X1A	
EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED		
DATE OF CONTENT		25X1A		
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	24 June 1952	
REFERENCES				
PAGES	2	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)		
REMARKS				

SOURCE

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- Between 11:10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on 18 April 1952, the following air activity was observed:

Take-Off	Landing	Aircraft
11:15 a.m.	11:10 a.m.	1 biplane
11:25 "	11:40 "	1 swept-back jet fighter
11:45 "	noon	1 biplane

Between noon and 12:30 p.m., there was local flying by biplanes. Eleven transports were parked east of the runway. Maintenance work was being done on four planes. A biplane landed at the field at 10:20 a.m. on 22 April and took off again at 10:30 a.m. Between 10:20 and 10:50 a.m., 14 transports were counted on the edge of the woods east of the runway. Maintenance work was being done on the aircraft. Between 10:30 and 11 a.m. on 24 April, no flying could be observed because of ground fog. No aircraft were observed at the field. Between 9:50 and 10:30 a.m. on 26 April, there was no flying, apparently because of bad weather. Three MIG-15s and 14 transports were parked on the landing field. Between 9:25 and 10:05 a.m. on 30 April, there was no flying at the field. One single-engine plane with an in-line engine, 4 MIG-15s and 19 transports were parked on the edge of the woods east of the runway. The field was observed between 9:40 and 10:35 a.m. on 4 May. Only one transport took off at 10:17 a.m. Twenty-three transports were parked at the edge of the woods east of the runway.

- The cleared area on the northern edge of the field was being covered with a layer of sand 0.8 to 1.2 meters deep. The sand was hauled to the field on a narrow-gauge field railway. Two Diesel engines and 300 to 400 civilian workers were employed. Two graders were used for grading the terrain at the end of the runway. On 26 April, five field railway trains with dump cars were observed. Two trains were towed by Diesel locomotives and the other five trains by steam locomotives. *

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3. [redacted] there were three kitchens at the field, one of which served the officers while the second one served the air and technical personnel. In the third mess, 350 to 400 persons could eat at the same time. At the time of observation, personnel ate in three shifts there.

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4. All of the Soviet soldiers who entered and left the field wore black-bordered blue epaulets, including some with propeller insignia on their epaulets. Personnel with red-bordered black epaulets were no longer observed. ** On 30 April, about 60 men practiced firing with rifles and submachine guns on the target ranges.

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* [] Comment. The taxiway is being extended to the north. According to available information, the work progresses slowly probably because of a shortage in workers. According to a newspaper advertisement, construction workers are required by the Altenburg Construction Site of Bauunion Leipzig.

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** [] Comment. The soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, who were previously reported, were probably airborne who practiced with the air transport regiment in Altenburg. Their present location is not known.

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*** [] Comment. The report confirms that Altenburg airfield is still occupied by an air transport regiment which is equipped with Li-2s. The observed jet fighters probably are an alert flight, an advance detail of a fighter regiment with air defense missions. Four jet fighters were continually observed at the field.

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